

September 2001

The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor
State of California
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Davis:

Two years ago, you asked us to explore infrastructure issues that each day affect tens of millions of Californians: the quality of our school facilities, roads and water, the affordability of housing, and the accessibility of our public facilities.

You asked us to look at the future of our state's infrastructure from a human perspective — how the choices we make could help or hinder the everyday activities of California's people, activities that collectively enrich the lives of our state, our nation and indeed, humanity.

Infrastructure touches our daily lives in so many ways - linking us to each other, our land and resources. Consider:

A San Diego father pours his daughter a glass of water as she prepares for a new day at school. His wife, an emergency room doctor, takes the light rail to work where she will save the life of an Oakland truck driver. That truck driver delivers his cargo—one hundred new computers to a Fresno grade school. And, those children learn and grow to become architects of an even better day.

As California rises to meet today's electricity challenge, we are reminded that a sound infrastructure is not something that can be taken for granted. A clean, reliable supply of water; safe, modern hospital and school buildings; an efficient system of highways and mass transit; and access to the latest technological advances are achievable only with thoughtful planning and sustained investment. We must move beyond preservation of infrastructure and take responsibility for expanding and enhancing it, giving Californians the tools to realize their dreams.

A great future for California depends on a great vision today. Among your first acts in office were measures designed to bolster the fabric of our state.

First, you created the Commission on Building for the 21st Century to examine the state of California's infrastructure and recommend ways to keep it strong.

Second, you secured \$6.8 billion which has grown to \$8.6 billion in additional transportation funds; \$450 million more for housing; led a successful campaign to pass \$4 billion in parks and water bonds, the largest such measures in our nation's history; and a \$350 million library bond. These historic investments will ensure a solid foundation for tomorrow's great ambitions and challenges.

The Commission's membership is diverse, drawing from its experience in business and agriculture, labor and environmental protection, education and public service. But we are united in a common goal—to keep California strong and maintain our unique and special place in the global community: a place where food that feeds millions is bountiful; a place where great new technologies blossom; a place where children's imaginations take flight; a place where affordable homes populate hillsides and cityscapes, against a backdrop of verdant mountains, cool seashores and fertile valleys; a place where millions come to realize their dreams.

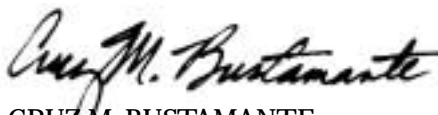
The Commission enthusiastically embraced this opportunity to develop a 20-year investment framework for California's infrastructure that builds on the work you have already done.

On behalf of the Commission, we submit to you *Invest for California—Strategic Planning for California's Future Prosperity and Quality of Life*. While this is the final report of our Commission, it can be the first step toward a continually secure and vibrant tomorrow.

Sincerely,



MARIA CONTRERAS-SWEET
Secretary, Business, Transportation
and Housing Agency
Chair



CRUZ M. BUSTAMANTE
Lieutenant Governor
Co-Chair

